

country, it is wonderful to see citizens taking the initiative to make their communities better. I am extremely proud of the people of my district, and I encourage them, and citizens across the country, to keep up the good work.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 12, 1996*

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on the week of May 17, 1996 I was unavoidably detained and therefore missed the vote on the Solomon amendment, for the defense authorization bill. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on the amendment.

#### WHEN IT COMES TO U.S. TRADE POLICY, U.S. TOBACCO MARKET SHARE TRUMPS HEALTH WELFARE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 12, 1996*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. is No. 1. But that's nothing to cheer about when you're the No. 1 exporter of tobacco products. According to the World Health Organization [WHO], the U.S. is the top exporter of tobacco products world wide, yet tobacco products represent less than 1 percent of total U.S. export earnings. Two recent studies by the National Bureau of Economic Research [NBER] and WHO have pointed out some disturbing information about the U.S. role in promoting tobacco products around the world and our international support of this addictive drug.

Since tobacco consumption has decreased by as much as 20 percent in the last 20 years in the U.S. and other highly industrialized nations, tobacco companies have been forced to turn elsewhere to shore up their huge profits. That elsewhere is foreign markets like Taiwan, Thailand, Japan, and South Korea. Since the early 1980's, the tobacco industry has been aggressively pressuring countries to open their markets to American tobacco products—and using U.S. trade policy to do it. Spurred by the tobacco industry, the U.S. Trade Representative [USTR] and the Commerce Department have successfully persuaded Asian countries to open their heavily restricted cigarette markets to U.S. tobacco products or face retaliatory measures.

The tobacco industry has been extremely successful in their conquest of the world tobacco market. The NBER study found that in 1991, U.S. tobacco market share in four Asian countries that lifted their import curbs was up 600 percent. Since 1975, U.S. cigarette exports have increased by 340 percent, up from 50.2 billion cigarettes in 1975 to 220.2 billion cigarettes in 1994.

But at what expenses to world health? According to the NBER report, the per capita cigarette consumption in Asian countries is almost 10 percent higher than it would have been if markets weren't open to American cigarettes. In their recent study of world tobacco and health trends, WHO found that, in

the early 1990's tobacco products caused an estimated 3 million deaths world wide per year. In addition, WHO documents that at least one person dies every 10 seconds as a result of tobacco use around the world.

Don't we have other American products to promote through the U.S. trade Representative? Why are we promoting products that unequivocally kill people when used as intended? The United States has an abundance of other products that the USTR could be promoting. Is opening markets for cancer-causing tobacco products the best allocation of USTR resources?

From smoke-free workplaces to the proposed FDA regulation of tobacco, as the United States continues to enact stricter controls regarding tobacco use, we should set a positive example to the rest of the world by promoting healthy, tobacco-free lifestyles. How can we continue to strive to reduce tobacco use at home, but continue to promote tobacco use abroad? The U.S. is known as the leader of the free world. We should lead the fight against tobacco use, rather than lead the world in tobacco sales.

#### HONORING VFW POST 7734 ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 12, 1996*

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7734 in Pico Rivera, CA, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. On Saturday, July 13, 1996, commander Jose Perez, senior vice commander Richard Partida, junior vice commander Adres Ramirez, quartermaster Randolph Parker, and adjunct Robert Navarro, will join veterans, family, and friends to celebrate this momentous occasion.

In 1946, a group of WWII veterans decided to form a VFW post to serve veterans living in southeast Los Angeles County. They gathered their friends, family, and neighbors, and applied for a charter from the national VFW organization. On July 12, 1946, a charter was granted. They decided to name the post after a well-known comrade and school friend, Lt. Ray L. Musgrove, who died in action during WWII. Today, the VFW post still bears his name.

During the late 1940's and early 1950's many of the members began to move into new tract homes in Rivera, Downey, and Santa Fe Springs. In the early 1950's the post was officially moved to the community of Rivera. After purchasing property in 1975, the post broke ground and built its new home. VFW Post 7734 is currently located in Pico Rivera, serving veterans for the past 20 years.

Throughout the year, with the help of its auxiliary, the post has been involved with numerous veterans programs, V.A. hospital visits, helping needy veterans and their families, as well as helping community youth activities, and promoting patriotism. The post has been active in honoring and perpetuating the memory and history of departed comrades who valiantly served our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, VFW Post 7734 today remains as committed to serving our Nation as it was

50 years ago when it was chartered. I proudly ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the members of VFW Post 7734 for their distinguished service to our country.

#### HONORING CONGRESSMAN JOSEPH Y. RESNICK

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 12, 1996*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment today to share some memories of one of my distinguished predecessors, Joseph Y. Resnick, who served in this body during the mid-1960's. Joe Resnick was an inspiration to me as a young man when I was first getting involved in politics and Government service. His commitment to public service and his responsiveness to his constituents led to a new era in representative government in the Hudson Valley region, a legacy which continues to this day.

The first Ulster County Democratic convention that I attended in 1964 featured Joe Resnick as a candidate for Congress against a long-time, seldom-seen Republican incumbent. During his acceptance speech at that convention Joe Resnick told a story about a conversation with a friend of his in Ellenville, NY. The man expressed his surprise that Joe was a Democrat. You see, back in those days Democrats in upstate New York were outnumbered 3 to 1. Joe continued on in his speech, not for a moment defensive or embarrassed by it and said "I'm the best kind of Democrat—the winning kind!" And he was right. And it wasn't the first or the last time he was right either.

Joe Resnick brought a new style of leadership to the region. He was a very visible public official. Up until that time, Members of Congress in the region didn't have district offices, but Joe Resnick opening a district office in Kingston, NY. Joe Resnick actually wanted his constituents to know who he was and that he was there to serve them, not the other way around. It used to be that the only way you could get your Congressman to help you was if you had power, money, or good connections. Joe Resnick had a radically new idea—serving the public directly, with dedication, and without discrimination. It all seems so natural to us today to do that, but believe me 30 years ago it wasn't. His example inspired me to open one of the very first district offices when I was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1976.

When I first came to Congress in January of 1993, then Speaker Tom Foley told me a wonderful story about his service with Joe Resnick on the House Agriculture Committee back in the 1960's. Joe Resnick was a freshman and the scene was the first day that the committee met for that session of Congress. The chairman of the committee, Speaker Foley went on to say, was an old Southern gentleman, very much of the old school as well, speaking in a thick Southern accent, who propounded the popular theory of those days that a freshman Member of Congress should be "seen and not heard," and that's the kind of treatment that the freshman Members could expect from the committee, and so forth. That was how it was in the old days. Well, Joe Resnick, who as a